

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the specification as follows:

Substitute the abstract with the following:

~~[Various embodiments provide]~~ Systems and methods ~~[that can be utilized to]~~ for remotely ~~[manage]~~ managing operating system deployments. Various features ~~[can]~~ allow a system administrator to plan and schedule operating system or image deployment on various computers or machines ~~[throughout an organization]~~. Planning and scheduling image deployment, in accordance with the various systems and methods described below, can take place in bandwidth-sensitive environments and are easily scalable. Various embodiments can provide an imaging process that seamlessly migrates data and/or state ~~[(e.g. machine/client/user data and state)]~~ to a newly-imaged operating system. ~~[In addition, at least]~~ Some embodiments can provide end users with flexibility to alter the behavior of the image deployment within policies that are specified by the system administrator. Additional embodiments provide a rich mechanism by which status reports are generated and sent to the system administrator to assist them in managing the deployment. Further embodiments can conduct operating system deployment in-place, meaning that additional disk partitions are not required.